

Synopsis of National Bibliography of U.S. Government Publications

WHAT IS THE NATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY OF U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS?

The National Bibliography of U.S. Government Publications (NB) will be a comprehensive catalog containing descriptions and locations of U.S. Government unclassified publications in all formats. It is GPO's goal to expand its cataloging initiatives to comply fully with statutory requirements, to increase the visibility and use of Government information products, and to develop a premier destination for information searchers.

Functionally, the National Bibliography will be the principal application of the GPO's new Integrated Library System (ILS), Ex Libris' Aleph 500, when the ILS is implemented. The ILS' metasearch function will provide the capability to search across a distributed set of non-homogeneous metadata resources from other institutions and display a combined result set. The public face of the ILS will be GPO's Online Public Access Catalog.

Initially GPO's core National Bibliography database will consist of GPO-produced bibliographic records representing titles cataloged from 1976 to the present. Once the ILS initial implementation is completed, projected for March 2004, GPO plans to expand the National Bibliography database by adding pre-1976 records, records created by cooperative cataloging partners and other institutions.